

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA
WESTERN DIVISION**

COURTHOUSE NEWS SERVICE,

Plaintiff,

v.

RYAN BOYCE, in his official capacity as
Director of the North Carolina Administrative
Office of the Courts; MICHELLE BALL, in
her official capacity as Clerk of Superior
Court of Johnston County; RENEE
WHITTENTON, in her official capacity as
Clerk of Superior Court of Harnett County;
and CLAUDIA CROOM, in her official
capacity as Clerk of Superior Court of Wake
County,

Defendants.

Case No.: 5:23-CV-280-FL

**STIPULATION OF VOLUNTARY
DISMISSAL WITHOUT PREJUDICE**

Pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 41(a)(1)(A)(ii), Plaintiff Courthouse News Service and Defendants Ryan Boyce, in his official capacity as Director of the North Carolina Administrative Office of the Courts; Michelle Ball, in her official capacity as Clerk of Superior Court of Johnston County; Renee Whittenton, in her official capacity as Clerk of Superior Court of Harnett County; and Claudia Croom, in her official capacity as Clerk of Superior Court of Wake County, by and through their undersigned counsel, hereby stipulate to this Voluntary Dismissal Without Prejudice of all claims in this action, with each party to bear its own attorneys' fees and costs.

Respectfully submitted this 4th day of February, 2026.

THOMAS & LoCICERO PL

/s/ Carol Jean LoCicero

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Counsel for Defendants

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

This is to certify that the undersigned this **4th** day of **February, 2026**, has caused the foregoing to be electronically filed using the CM/ECF system, which will send notification of such filing to all the counsel of record for the Parties who participate in the CM/ECF system.

/s/ Carol Jean LoCicero

Attorney